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**BUREAU FOR DEMOCRACY, CONFLICT, AND HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE (DCHA)
OFFICE OF U.S. FOREIGN DISASTER ASSISTANCE (OFDA)**

Georgia – Complex Emergency

Fact Sheet #6, Fiscal Year (FY) 2008

August 19, 2008

Note: The last fact sheet was dated August 18, 2008.

KEY DEVELOPMENTS

- As of August 19, international media report few significant signs of Russian troops withdrawing from Georgia, despite pledges to begin pulling back to pre-conflict areas beginning August 18. In contrast, multiple reports cite new checkpoints, trenches, and barricades around Gori and Karaleti towns in Shida Kartli Region.
- International donors have pledged nearly \$30.5 million in humanitarian assistance to Georgia to date, according to the U.N. Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) as of August 19. On August 18, the U.N. released a flash appeal calling for \$58.5 million to address humanitarian needs of approximately 128,700 beneficiaries within Georgia for up to six months as a result of the ongoing conflict. Noting that the Government of the Russian Federation (GoRF) has not requested international assistance, the appeal does not include an additional estimated 30,000 people who fled South Ossetia for areas within Russia.
- To date, the USG has provided nearly \$9.3 million in humanitarian assistance for the ongoing complex emergency in Georgia. The total includes more than \$2.8 million in U.S. Department of State Office of the Coordinator of U.S. Assistance to Europe and Eurasia (State/EUR/ACE) emergency relief commodities; nearly \$1.7 million from USAID/OFDA for emergency relief supplies and emergency food commodities; and more than \$4.7 million in U.S. European Command (EUCOM) flights and Department of Defense emergency relief commodities.

NUMBERS AT A GLANCE		SOURCE
Newly Displaced Persons in Georgia	128,703	U.N. Georgia Flash Appeal - August 18, 2008
Newly Displaced Persons in Russia	30,000	U.N. Georgia Flash Appeal - August 18, 2008

FY 2008 HUMANITARIAN FUNDING PROVIDED TO DATE

USAID/OFDA Assistance to Georgia.....	\$1,696,396
State/EUR/ACE Assistance to Georgia.....	\$2,844,581
DOD Assistance to Georgia	\$4,746,462
Total USAID, State, and DOD Humanitarian Assistance to Georgia.....	\$9,287,439

CURRENT SITUATION

Humanitarian Access

- As of August 18, access to Gori town and additional locations in Georgia may be improving, according to OCHA. Although the damaged rail line between Gori and Tbilisi has temporarily halted rail transit, a humanitarian corridor is now operational on the major east-west highway across the country, allowing the distribution of humanitarian relief to Gori and as far west as Poti, along the Black Sea.
- On August 18, the Office of the U.N. High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) delivered tents, blankets, kitchen sets, and water containers to the town of Batumi in a previously inaccessible area in western Georgia. According to UNHCR field staff, between 20,000 and 25,000 people in western and central Georgia are in need of emergency assistance.
- To date, South Ossetia remains inaccessible to U.N. agencies and other relief organizations, including the International Federation of the Red Cross (ICRC). In an August 19 update, ICRC noted that the organization is hopeful that it will soon be granted access to South Ossetia.

Emergency Assistance

- On August 18, OCHA reported that the Government of Georgia (GoG) has identified hygiene kits, food, and safe drinking water as priority needs. U.N. agencies, donor governments, and relief agencies have sent 42 flights and convoys of emergency relief commodities to Georgia to date, and 11 shipments are currently in the pipeline.
- In North Ossetia, the GoRF Ministry of Emergency Situations reports providing more than 997 metric tons (MTs) of emergency relief commodities to date, including 525 MTs of food, 30 MTs of medicine, 22 MTs of medical

equipment, and 11 MTs of hygiene kits. GoRF relief officials also report delivering water purification units, drinking water, generators, and reconstruction equipment, according to OCHA.

- In South Ossetia, GoRF reports providing 609 MTs of humanitarian assistance to date, including 362 MTs of food, 5 MTs of medicine, 12 MTs of fuel, as well as water purification units, drinking water, and reconstruction materials. GoRF teams have reportedly deployed to Tskhinvali in South Ossetia and are working to repair damaged water, gas, and electricity systems. De-mining teams report clearing 51 unexploded ordnance to date. According to the U.N. World Food Program (WFP), GoRF has reported that, since August 12, an estimated 13,600 displaced people have returned to South Ossetia from the Russian Federation.
- ICRC is continuing to provide medical assistance and distribute emergency assistance to conflict-affected Georgians. As of August 19, ICRC has delivered 445 tons of assistance, including food, blankets, medicine and water treatment equipment, to Tbilisi to meet the needs of an estimated 25,000 people for one month.

Priority Needs

- An unpredictable security situation and roadblocks on major transit routes continue to prevent detailed assessments. However, the USAID/OFDA Disaster Assistance Response Team (DART) and USAID/Georgia note that prepared food, hygiene kits, and shelter and bedding material are priority needs for displaced populations, as of August 17.

Displacement:

- While it remains difficult to confirm precise numbers and locations of internally displaced persons (IDPs), U.N. agencies are estimating that approximately 128,700 people have been displaced in Georgia, of whom 30,000 people are within South Ossetia. As of August 18, OCHA has received reports that the GoRF has registered 22,763 people in North Ossetia who have recently arrived from South Ossetia.
- On August 18, OCHA noted that IDPs are currently gathered in a large number of sites particularly in and around Tbilisi, challenging GoG and relief efforts to locate IDPs, identify priority needs, and distribute emergency relief items. In addition, many IDPs are currently residing in schools, which are scheduled to begin classes in early fall. During various assessments on August 19, the USAID DART noted that cleanliness and available services in IDP sites in Tbilisi vary widely.

Logistics

- On August 19, five EUCOM flights arrived in Tbilisi delivering a total of 37,900 humanitarian daily rations and 21,000 meals-ready-to-eat from DOD stockpiles; 160 sleeping bags and 1,068 sheets from State/EUR/ACE; and 3,000 USAID/OFDA hygiene kits. The emergency assistance will be distributed to IDPs in and around Tbilisi and Gori. EUCOM flights are scheduled to continue through late-August. In total, EUCOM has flown 15 aircraft filled with emergency relief supplies to Tbilisi. The total value of EUCOM's transportation assistance is more than \$3.3 million.

USAID AND STATE HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE

- On August 9, U.S. Ambassador John F. Tefft declared a disaster due to the effects of armed conflict in Georgia. In response, USAID/OFDA provided an initial \$250,000 through the U.S. Embassy in Tbilisi for the provision of emergency relief supplies to benefit up to 10,000 people. The U.S. Embassy in Tbilisi released U.S. Department of State pre-positioned disaster packages, including medical supplies, tents, blankets, bedding, hygiene items, and clothing valued at \$1.2 million.
- On August 12, EUCOM began airlifting State/EUR/ACE-provided relief and medical supplies to Tbilisi. As of August 19, 15 flights carrying relief, shelter, emergency food assistance, hygiene kits, and medical commodities have arrived in Tbilisi. The total value of USG emergency relief commodities is more than \$4.5 million.
- On August 13, the enhanced USAID/OFDA regional team for Europe, the Middle East, and Central Asia transitioned to a Response Management Team based in Washington D.C. to coordinate USG humanitarian response efforts, identify priority needs, and program additional emergency assistance.
- On August 14, USAID/OFDA in collaboration with USAID Office of Food for Peace provided \$1 million to WFP for the procurement of 653.5 MT of emergency food commodities for populations affected by the ongoing emergency.
- On August 15, the USAID DART arrived in Tbilisi to conduct humanitarian needs assessments, coordinate with the GoG and relief agencies, and inform further USAID assistance priorities. USAID/OFDA continues to work closely with the U.S. Department of State, U.S. Department of Defense, and humanitarian agencies on the ground to coordinate relief activities.

USAID AND STATE HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO GEORGIA

Implementing Partner	Activity	Location	Amount
USAID/OFDA ASSISTANCE¹			
USAID/Georgia	Emergency Relief Supplies	Tbilisi, Marneuli, Dmanisi, Bolnisi, Khashuri, Borjomi, Akhaltsikhe	\$250,000
WFP	653.4 MT of Emergency Food Commodities	Countrywide	\$1,000,000
Logistics	Emergency Relief Supplies	Tbilisi and Affected Areas	\$265,370
	Administration and DART Support		\$181,026
TOTAL USAID/OFDA			\$1,696,396
STATE/EUR/ACE ASSISTANCE²			
Multiple	Emergency Relief and Medical Supplies	Tbilisi and Affected Areas	\$2,844,581
TOTAL STATE/EUR/ACE			\$2,844,581
DOD ASSISTANCE			
	Emergency Relief Supplies	Tbilisi and Affected Areas	\$1,436,130
	Transportation of USG emergency relief supplies	Tbilisi and Affected Areas	\$3,310,332
TOTAL DOD			\$4,746,462
TOTAL USAID, STATE, AND DOD HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO GEORGIA IN FY 2008			\$9,287,439

¹ USAID/OFDA funding represents anticipated or actual obligated amounts as of August 19, 2008.

² State/EUR/ACE has facilitated the provision of emergency relief supplies to non-governmental organizations for distribution in cooperation with the GoG Ministry of Refugees and Accommodation. The funding amounts represent the approximate value of relief commodities; the costs of transportation of the commodities by U.S. European Command military flights is reflected in the DOD Assistance section.

PUBLIC DONATION INFORMATION

- The most effective way people can assist relief efforts is by making cash contributions to humanitarian organizations that are conducting relief operations. Information on organizations responding to the humanitarian situation in Georgia may be available at www.reliefweb.int.
- USAID encourages cash donations because they allow aid professionals to procure the exact items needed (often in the affected region); reduce the burden on scarce resources (such as transportation routes, staff time, warehouse space, etc); can be transferred very quickly and without transportation costs; support the economy of the disaster-stricken region; and ensure culturally, dietary, and environmentally appropriate assistance.
- More information can be found at:
 - USAID: www.usaid.gov – Keyword: Donations
 - The Center for International Disaster Information: www.cidi.org or (703) 276-1914
 - Information on relief activities of the humanitarian community can be found at www.reliefweb.int

USAID/OFDA bulletins appear on the USAID web site at http://www.usaid.gov/our_work/humanitarian_assistance/disaster_assistance/